

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/753,931	IRUELA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Anh-Vu H. Ly	2667	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to amendment filed June 16, 2005.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 15-17, 19 and 20 renumbered as 1-5.
3. The drawings filed on 03 January 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient..
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 08/15/05 .
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Joscelyn G. Cockburn on August 15, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In The Claims

19. (Currently Amended) A system for transmitting a loopback cell within a switching node of an ATM connection, said switching node including a first adapter having associated ports and a second adapter having associated ports, wherein said loopback cell enters said switching node by a first adapter port, said system comprising:

processing means within said switching node for detecting a loopback condition when an ATM cell enters said first adapter;

a routing header function for appending a routing label to said ATM cell indicating that said ATM cell is a loopback cell to be looped back on said ATM connection, said routing label including a switch routing label for identifying said first adapter as the output adapter from which said loopback cell will exit said switching node a protocol engine correlator for pointing to a connection control block within said first adapter, and

a switching engine for transferring said loopback cell to said first adapter port utilizing said appended routing label.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 15-17, 19, and 20 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art does not teach or fairly suggest wherein the routing label being appended to the loopback cell only if a loop control bit is set by a control point of the switching node within the first adapter, whereby the cell enters by the first adapter, as specified in independent claim 15.

The prior art does not teach or fairly suggest wherein the routing label including a protocol engine correlator for pointing to a connection control block within the first adapter, whereby the cell enters by the first adapter, as specified in independent claim 19.

The prior art does not teach or fairly suggest wherein the ATM header virtual path/virtual circuit of the loopback cell is not swapped by the protocol engine of the first adapter before the loopback cell is transmitted over an ATM network by the first adapter port, whereby the cell enters by the first adapter, as specified in independent claim 20.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Manchester et al (US Patent No. 6,724,728 B1) discloses method and system for distributed processing of traffic in a telecommunications node.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anh-Vu H. Ly whose telephone number is 571-272-3175. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:00am - 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi Pham can be reached on 571-272-3179. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

avl


CHI PHAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINEE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2000 8/16/05